

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 with the following currently amended paragraph:

A main proton conducting membrane which is used in PEFC at present is a fluororesin-based membrane having a perfluoroalkylene as a main skeleton and having a perfluorovinylether side chain partly terminated by sulfonic acid group. As such sulfonated fluororesin-based membranes there are known Nafion (trade name) film (produced by Du Pont, Inc.; see US Patent 4,330,654 3,282,875), Dow film (produced by Dow Chemical Inc.; see JP-A-4- 366137), Aciplex (trade name) film (produced by Asahi Kasei Corporation; see JP-A-6-342665), Flemion (trade name) film (produced by ASAHI GLASS COMPANY), etc.